

Joseph Miller House
Poors Mills Road, 2.4 miles
from Waldo Avenue
Belfast Vicinity
Waldo County
Maine

HABS No. ME-90

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. ME-90

JOSEPH MILLER HOUSE

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Address: Poors Mills Road, 2.4 miles from Waldo Avenue,
Belfast Vicinity, Waldo County, Maine.

Present Owner: Mrs. May Collins.

Present Occupant: Tenant.

Present Use: Rented residence.

Brief Statement of Significance: This building, according to local tradition a tavern, is one of the few early salt-box type houses remaining in the area.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Original and subsequent owners: Joseph Miller's farm went to his sons, Samuel W. and Joseph, and then to his grandson Wales L. Miller.

2. Date of erection: c. 1800.

3. Sources of information: Interview with Mr. Harold Stone, Belfast, Maine, summer 1960 by F. Blair Reeves.

Interview with Miss Elena Shute, 7 Park Street, Belfast, August 17, 1962 by Osmond R. Overby.

Federal Writers' Project, Maine, A Guide "Down East" (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1937), p. 226.

Joseph Williamson, History of the City of Belfast in the State of Maine (Portland: Loring, Short, and Harmon, 1877), Vol. I, pp. 100, 198, 422, 538, 545, 577.

B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure: Joseph Miller (1756-1842) was born in Peterborough and moved to Belfast where he was listed as one of the 148 voters in the town in 1800.

According to a local tradition which is recorded in Federal Writers' Project, Maine, A Guide "Down East", the Joseph Miller house was used as a tavern. This seems unlikely since the house is on a road that has never carried any long-distance through traffic, nor is the house included in the discussion of taverns in Williamson, History of the City of Belfast in the State of Maine.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural character: This is a large, early frame house, one of the few salt-box types remaining in the area.
2. Condition of fabric: Good.

B. Technical Description of Exterior

1. Over-all size: Two-story, five-bay main block, with attached one-story shed and barns.
2. Foundations: Stone.
3. Wall construction: Frame, wood shingles on the sides, modern asbestos shingles on the front, corner boards.
4. Openings:
 - a. Doors and doorways: Paneled main entrance door with rectangular top light, simple molded doorway.
 - b. Windows: Small paned double hung windows in various patterns: 12 over 12 light, 12 over 8 light, 9 over 6 light, 6 over 6 light.
5. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: Gable roof extended on the rear to form salt-box shape covered with asphalt shingles.
 - b. Eaves: Simple, small, boxed eaves, slight projection on the front, none on the sides.

C. Site: Rural setting, on a hill surrounded by lawn, trees, and flowers.

Prepared by F. Blair Reeves, Architect
1960

AND Osmond R. Overby, Architect
August 1962
National Park Service